

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3342
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2001
MORE FUNDS FOR WEST BENGAL
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the PWD maintains the National Highways passing through the State on the basis of funds provided by the Union Government;
- (b) if so, whether the funds flow is irregular and inadequate;
- (c) if so, whether the National Highways passing through West Bengal used as a transit route for vehicular and truck traffic from the West to East require more funds on regular basis; and
- (d) if so, the manner in which the Government are going to improve the funds flow for the West Bengal ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) [MAJOR GENERAL (RETI) KHANDURI, AVSM]

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Availability of funds for maintenance and repairs of the National Highways in the country is of the order of 45%-50% of requirement as per norms. Available funds are allocated to the states in phases on the basis of length and width of the National Highways, traffic intensity, terrain, rainfall etc.

(c)&(d) National Highways are the arteries of the national road network carrying inter and intra state traffic. With the four laning of some National Highways under the National Highway Development Project (NHDP), West Bengal is likely to have an additional investment of about Rs 2570 crores under this project in the coming three years.